

The report describes the results in terms of social behaviour and symptomatology. The results regarding social behaviour were classified as follows: citizen, i.e. earning living and managing affairs and taking normal active place in the community; co-operative, i.e. actively helpful at home or in hospital; milder; as before; and worse. In the total group the effects on social behaviour were: citizen, 24 per cent; co-operative, 16 per cent; milder, 29 per cent; as before, 24 per cent; worse, 1 per cent.

The standard of behaviour classified as citizen was reached in 16 per cent of schizophrenics, 43 per cent manic depressives, and 55 per cent obsessionals. The operation was most effective in removing the following symptoms: suicidal intent (83 per cent); depression and agitation (71 per cent); obsessions (53 per cent). The data did not permit of any conclusions about the occurrence of any personality changes.

The conclusions drawn are that pre-frontal leucotomy is a simple operation for the patient, with a death-rate not high when the

seriousness of established mental disorder is taken into account. There is a remarkable improvement of behaviour in a large proportion of patients who have had severe symptoms with poor prognosis and have failed to respond to other methods of treatment. Further research will be required to ascertain whether these results are achieved at the cost of the loss of some finer mental qualities. The operation should only be carried out after careful consideration of each individual by experienced psychiatrists.

The report has served an extremely useful purpose in providing a survey of a large series of results of the operation and in presenting the findings and conclusions in a lucid and objective manner.

Further intensive research will be required not only to help in the most efficient selection of cases but to enable the psychiatrist to make an accurate formulation of the prognosis in terms of possible personality change as well as the probability of full social recovery.

W. LINFORD REES.

OTHER NOTICES

Delisle, Françoise. *Friendship's Odyssey*. (London, 1946. Heinemann.) Pp. xi, 495 + 2 portraits. Price 21s.

THE biographies of Havelock Ellis, by Isaac Goldberg and Houston Peterson, written when he was at the height of his fame and had more than ten years to live, are necessarily incomplete and uncritical. His autobiography (*My Life*, published in 1940) has little to say about the years between his wife's death in 1916 and his own in 1939. Clifford Bax in a foreword to this latest addition to material on Ellis's life, hopes that the "book may re-establish the true image of Havelock Ellis and correct the damage which he himself did to that image in his eagerly awaited autobiography." The book is the autobiography of the Françoise who appears in the later pages of *My Life*.

Ellis does not come into the story until it is half told, and the author is a woman worthy of our interest quite apart from her connection with the master. The Ouida-esque style of her narrative should not deter the reader, though that punt of

which, as a girl, she kept the rudder straight and steady while her brothers pulled vigorously at the oars must have been an entertaining river craft. The typographical exuberance which occasionally prints such words as "love," "man" and "life" in capitals must be borne with.

A pacifist by faith rather than intellectual conviction and a "compassionate" anarchist by religion, it is not surprising that Françoise Delisle did not fit into the French bourgeois society of her birth. She escaped to the hard and penurious existence of a teacher in England, where she met Jim Martin, the father of her first son. A good deal of space is devoted to the demerits of this gentleman, but it is possible to sympathize with one *faux pas* of his unfortunate visit to her parents' home in France. It was the practice of a hospitable French host to place brandy and sugar by a guest's bed "in case in the night he felt faint." No one was, of course, expected to take more than a sip, but the bibulous Mr. Martin emptied his decanter in one night, to the great scandal of the household.

After leaving Martin she married and brought

another son into the world. The shortcomings of her Russian husband differed from Martin's in nature rather than degree; and the marriage was breaking up when she met Havelock Ellis just after his wife's death. Françoise was then thirty and Ellis twenty-seven years her senior. An intimacy of mind and body gradually grew up between them. In 1928 they set up a joint ménage and she was his companion, and later his nurse, until he died.

Françoise writes of this relationship with more heat than light; and, in spite of an almost embarrassing frankness, appears to be reticent on certain sensitivities of Havelock's about which he writes quite freely in his own autobiography. Nevertheless, detailed material is given for the study of a remarkable union between two exceptionally gifted human beings. There is a full account of Françoise's relationship with Andrew Scott. Her intimacy with this friend, twenty years his junior, caused Ellis great pain and "rocked the boat" in a way which surprised nobody except the triangle concerned. The long transcriptions from letters given in the latter part of the book, if a little tedious from a literary point of view, are of intense psychological interest. The tortuous dissertations on jealousy, if they do not solve the problem of which they treat, at least show that the exorcism of this demon is by no means as easy (even for human beings of high calibre) as some optimists have supposed. There are interesting references to other figures in Ellis's life. Edith Ellis, we learn, was not deeply interested in her husband's sexological works. The devotion to the master of the Amy of his autobiography is more than once described as dog-like.

Even those who cannot help a little sly humour enlivening their reading of the erotic heroics of this book must be awed by the end. The account of Ellis's illness and death is stark tragedy. In depicting the dilemma of the believer in euthanasia faced with hopeless suffering in our present-day society, an almost classic austerity breaks into the author's flamboyant style. One can only wish for a medical case history of Ellis's malady and death.

The book is a major contribution to the material for that judicial appraisal of Ellis's life and work which has yet to be written.

ALEC CRAIG.

Fisher, R. A. *The Design of Experiments*. 4th Edition. Edinburgh, 1947. Oliver & Boyd. Pp. xi + 240. Price 12s. 6d.

WE welcome the fourth edition of Professor Fisher's *Design of Experiments*. It varies from the third edition* only by the inclusion of a short section on the fiducial limits of a ratio; the section numbers remain unchanged.

It is pleasant to notice the improvement in paper and binding as compared with the 1942 war-time edition.

K. H.

Geikie-Cobb, Ivo. *The Glands of Destiny: A Study of the Personality*. 3rd Edition, revised and enlarged. London, 1947. Heinemann Medical Books. Pp. xii + 258. Price 15s.

A THIRD edition of Dr. Geikie-Cobb's well-known *Glands of Destiny* has just been published; the second edition was fully reviewed in this journal,* but the volume now in our hands has been largely rewritten in view of the increase in the knowledge of internal secretions during the intervening period.

As before, Part I describes the secretions of the ductless glands and Part II discusses their rôle in the formation of character and physical appearance. There follow ten essays on historical personalities, from Henry VIII to Napoleon. Sections on the Emperor of Abyssinia and on Mussolini have been omitted and an essay on Edward Gibbon substituted.

There are a number of excellent illustrations. The book is very well produced and has a useful glossary, bibliography and index.

K. H.

Loewenstein, Joseph, M.D. *The Treatment of Impotence: with special reference to Mechano-therapy*. Foreword by Eric Strauss, D.M., F.R.C.P. Hamish Hamilton Medical Books, London, 1947. Pp. 50. 6s.

A FAMILIAR problem for the psychiatrist is the treatment of the man who suffers from impotence. The symptom often appears in men of an otherwise normal and un-neurotic disposition, and can be the cause of great distress and even personal and family tragedy. In one of its commonest forms it is caused by anxiety associated with the sexual act, which either inhibits, or interrupts, or brings to a premature end the successive stages of the normal physiological process. A single failure predisposes to further failures on later occasions, and the patient may find himself in a state in which he is unable to break out of the vicious circle.

Cases like these will often respond to psychotherapy, but it may be a long and difficult process; for every time copulation is attempted the patient feels that he is being tested, and his old anxieties are reawakened. The purpose of mechanotherapy is to make penetration, at least, possible under practically all circumstances, so that the failure can no longer be absolute. The vicious circle is broken, and the possibility is created for the re-establishment of normal reflex responses.

Mechanotherapy is quite old, certainly older than psychotherapy; but it is only in recent years that scientific principles have been applied to the design of the supportive apparatus. It is in this field that Dr. Loewenstein has made his personal contribution. However, as he points out, it is not often that mechanotherapy by itself will be suffi-

* *Eugenics Review*, 1943, 35, 1.

* *Eugenics Review*, 1936, 28, 2.

cient to bring about a cure; and the use of the apparatus as a training appliance, which can be dropped when normal function is restored, must be supplemented by attention to the causes of the anxiety. There can be no doubt that the use of such an appliance greatly abbreviates the length of psychological treatment and re-education, and is a powerful aid in the treatment of remediable cases. It is remarkable that, apparently, it has not been known in this country until Dr. Loewenstein brought his ideas from the Continent.

This little book gives an account of the physiological mechanism of erection, a short clinical discussion of psychological impotence, describes the technique, its indications and results and failures; and at the end there are some interesting case records. It is on all accounts to be welcomed as a valuable addition to the subject, and it is to be hoped that British doctors will give attention to this method of treatment of a common and most distressing disability.

ELIOT SLATER.

Templewood, The Right Hon. the Viscount.
Crime and Punishment. (London, Stevens.)
Pp. 26. Price 2s. 6d.

THE first annual lecture under the auspices of the Department of Criminal Science Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge, was delivered in January last by Viscount Templewood.

The matter largely deals with the proposals introduced in the Criminal Justice Bill, 1938, by the lecturer when Home Secretary. He states that when he accepted that office he followed the example of his great-great-aunt Elizabeth Fry and

visited many prisons in the country in order to obtain first-hand knowledge of penal problems. Much of the lecture is directed to the problem of juvenile delinquency and to the fact that whilst the young are most prone to drift into criminal habits they are the most susceptible class of offender to respond to wise methods of reform. Viscount Templewood states that the practice in different courts varies so extensively that a common basic point of view as to the best method of treatment has still to be achieved. He considers that neither imprisonment nor probation has succeeded in checking the growth of juvenile delinquency, and that neither is sufficiently focused on the essential need of training the offender. Reference is made to the satisfactory results derived from training in approved schools and Borstal institutions, but note is taken of the fact that this training involves a long period of detention and would be rightly regarded as excessive if imposed for insignificant offences. Raising the age beneath which young offenders could not be sent to prison by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction is advocated, as well as the further development of the system of earnings for prison labour and a revision of the probation system. The Bill of 1938 provided for attendance centres and residential hostels for juvenile delinquents; and Viscount Templewood, recognizing that prevention is more difficult than punishment, deals with the importance of religious and moral efforts in both directions. Unnecessary technicalities are avoided throughout and the lecture will appeal to those who are interested in this important social problem.

W. NORWOOD EAST.

PERIODICALS

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1946, Vol. 21, Nos. 3/4.—The main contents of this issue are papers read at the spring meeting of the Swiss Genetical Society (Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Vererbungsforschung), Berne, May 4th-5th, 1946, and at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Julius Klaus-Stiftung in Zürich, September 6th, 1946.

Etude clinique et génétique de la maladie de Niemann-Pick.—By U. Pfändler.—Clinical and genetic study of Niemann-Pick's disease. *Über einen Stammbaum von myotonischer Dystrophie mit Anteponition und Potenzierung.*—By A. Franceschetti and D. Klein.—A family tree of myotonic dystrophie. *Rétinoblastome et hérédité.*—By A. Franceschetti and V. Bischler.—Tumours of the retina and heredity. *Studien über die Vererbung*

von psychischen und körperlichen endokrinen Unausgeglichenheiten.—By D. Wolf and M. Bleuler.—Heredity of mental and physical endocrinal disturbances. (See the investigations by Bleuler and his pupils, abstracted in this REVIEW July 1945, 37, 79; July 1946, 33, 96; October 1946, 33, 154). *Zur Vererbung der Lippen-Kiefer-Gaumenspalten* ("Hasenscharten" und "Wolfsrachen") *beim Menschen.*—By E. Hanhart.—On the heredity of cleft palate in man. *Genetik und Chemie.*—By M. J. Sirks.—Genetics and chemistry. *Eine Löttscher-Inzucht-Kolonie, Fundstätte für Anthropologen, Ethnologen und Genetiker.*—By H. W. Itten.—An inbred colony in the higher part of the Lauterbrunnen Valley, a treasure trove for anthropologists, ethnologists and geneticists. *Über die Erbbedingtheit der Glykogenosen und deren Beziehun-*